



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

41-A

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

“It has come to my attention that attorneys for the Los Angeles Times have raised serious concerns about two separate incidents that occurred earlier this year in which reporters for the newspaper were ordered off the premises of King-Harbor Hospital when they attempted to conduct interviews in public areas of this public hospital. In the most recent case, the attorneys assert that the reporter neither misrepresented himself nor attempted to interview anyone in a restricted area. They assert that nothing about his presence or his conduct was disruptive, nor did any patients complain about any disclosure of ‘private’ information.

“The Department of Health Services (DHS) reportedly has claimed that DHS policies preclude media access unless arranged in advance. These incidents, and any applicable policies, warrant further explanation.”

Therefore, at the request of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, Dr. Bruce A. Chernof, Director of Health Services, presented a verbal report to the Board on the circumstances regarding the two separate incidents where reporters for the Los Angeles Times were ordered off the premises of Martin Luther King, Jr. – Harbor Hospital while attempting to conduct interviews in public areas of the public hospital, the Department’s response, and the policy and legal basis for the Department’s actions. Leela Kapur, Assistant County Counsel, responded to questions posed by the Board.

Dr. Genevieve Clavreul also addressed the Board.

After discussion, no action was taken by the Board.

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